Boston Feb. 4. 1840.

Dear Brother

As you will be informed by your secretary, our Com^{e} have voted to request your services before the legislative Com^{e}. on the subject of slavery &c. I write to say, that I hope you will not *on any account*, fail to come, if it be within the limits of ~~possibility~~ possibility. We shall of course expect to defray your expenses. *Do come without fail*. I think the committee will give *us* (the new organization) a favorable hearing. They sent of their own accord to us, offering us a hearing, & requesting us to ~~fi~~ meet them & fix on a time for it. It is fixed for the 10th inst. It is all important both for the cause & for us, that we be ably represented before them. We have Lee, & some other good men, but we cannot do without you also. I think with your help, the influence of Charles Tappan & co, the reenactment of the gag-law in Congress &c. we may hope for something decisive from the Com: & the legislature, ~~at least~~ on the subjects of slavery in the District, & the foreign slave trade, & the Territories.

If you cannot come, do not fail to send Stanton or Leavitt. We must have some one from your committee. As Stanton has been here, my own impression is that if Leavitt could come & take up

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in his cool, statistical, lawyer-like way, the subject of the Foreign Slave-trade - showing the utter impossibility of putting any effectual stop to it, by colonies or any other way, short of the abolition of slavery, this would be the better arrangement. It would give him a grand chance to show up incidentally the colonization humbug, so far as it relates to the slave-trade, & also to bring out in bold relief the true position of our gov^t. & nation on the subject. ~~[illegible]~~ This would be presenting our general subject in a relation, that to the legislature would be new, & would I think be a great point gained. And as brother Leavitt has the facts at his finger's ends, & I also have quite a lot of facts on it, that I could hand over to him, I think it would be a great point gained, to bring it out fully before the Committee & the legislature.

At all events do not fail to let us have yourself, Stanton, or Leavitt.

Mrs. Misner, informs me that she received the certificate of a deposite of $100. She will probably advise you of it.

Please write us immediately, & let us know what we may depend on.

Yours truly

A. A. Phelps

P. S. Lest you should say to me, attend yourself to the subject of the For. Sl. trade, I would say that my engagements forbid my giving a moment's time to it.

Paid Ch. Box 283
A. A. P.

PAID

BOSTON FEB 5

James G. Birney, or
Rev. Joshua Leavitt,
New York

Rev. A. A. Phelps

Feb. 4. '40

Wants J.G.B. or J.L. or H.B.S.
to go before Com^ee. of Mass.
Legislature.

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